

TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 6:45pm. Selectmen present were: Michael Woodworth, Rosanne Gilbert, and Wes Moore. Others present included: Town Planner Clay Mitchell and Maureen Smith.

Michael Woodworth made a motion to appoint Wes Moore Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Rosanne Gilbert seconded the motion and the motion passed with both in favor.

Checks were signed and Nancy Spencer was authorized to release the check to Gordon Fowler for roofing the front section of the Town Hall. The Selectmen are pleased with the job.

Michael made a motion to re-appoint Mary August as a Board of Adjustment Member. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor. Mary's new term will expire in March 2011.

Michael made a motion to re-appoint Elliot Alexander as a Planning Board Member. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor. Elliot's term will expire in March 2011.

Michael made a motion to re-appoint David Dennehy as the Town Landing Overseer. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor. David's term will expire in March 2011. Nancy was asked to contact David to set up a time to meet with the Selectmen to discuss needed repairs at the Town Landing.

A letter was sent last week to Brian Hart at the Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire via e-mail regarding the proposed Piscassic Greenway Management Plan. The hard copy was signed by the Selectmen tonight and will be sent to Brian via US Mail. Wes spoke with Brian last Thursday regarding the letter and Brian agreed to meet with the

Selectmen on April 15th to discuss the items that the Town has asked to have included in the Management Plan.

The Selectmen and Clay Mitchell signed the Contract with MG Planning, LLC for Town Planner Services. Clay then gave updates to the Selectmen on his work in progress:

The preliminary work on the Capital Improvement Plan has been completed and Clay is ready to meet with the department heads for the next step in the process.

Clay hopes to have Public Hearings in the fall on the Master Plan and his goal is to have the Master Plan in effect in 2009.

Wes asked for an update on Nancy Kingston. Clay feels her best path is to ask for a variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustment. If that fails, Nancy can pursue the issue by submitting a Citizen's Petition to the Planning Board, or ask the Planning Board to place a zoning change on the ballot next year.

Clay has researched the fee issues that have become an issue on some submitted Planning Board Applications. In order to avoid this problem in the future, the Planning Board now requires an amount of money to be held by the Town in escrow before the Planning Board review of an application begins.

Clay advises that the Cedar Island Ledge Property Management LLC issue has been resolved.

It is Clay's understanding that Bernier Corp. has dropped their dispute of the Planning Board fees and will pay the outstanding invoices in full.

Clay and Sean Gormley (a representative of Light Tower) completed a site walk of the cell tower today. The arborvitae has not been planted at this time and Light Tower is asking that the Town accept a payment of \$5,000. to the Stratham Circle Nursery as a good faith step in complying with the terms of the original cell tower agreement. Dave Short of Stratham Circle Nursery suggested that spruce trees be planted rather than arborvitae as deer will eat and kill the arborvitae in a year or so. According to Dave, Spruce trees are hardier, wider, and are not eaten by deer. They will also likely blend in better with the

existing vegetation. Clay discussed this with Fran Lane and said Fran is comfortable with the substitution.

Wes made a motion to agree to allow Light Tower to work directly with Stratham Circle Nursery to provide the necessary shrubbery/landscaping to comply with the camouflaging provisions of the agreement with Light Tower at the cell tower location. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Wes advised that the Newfields Fire Department will burn down the old Hackett/Kegode building on April 5th, 2008. A letter from Elizabeth Hackett/Kegode was reviewed. The Building Inspector will not issue a temporary Occupancy Certificate on the new dwelling.

The Human Service Requests for fiscal 2008 were reviewed. After deliberation the Selectmen decided on donations to the various organizations that help the residents of Newfields. A complete list of the donations is available at the Town Office.

Reuben Hull contacted Nancy Spencer about two unpaid invoices submitted to the Town last November from Civil Design Engineering Consultants. Wes made a motion to hold off payment on those invoices until such time as all invoices/estimates have been received to make the new handicap ramp ADA compliant. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

The Selectmen were asked about working at the Spring Clean Up being held on Saturday, April 26th between 8:00am and 12 noon. Sue McKinnon will be kept informed of the Selectmen who will be working.

The Town's software provider (ADS) is now offering remote back-up service. Nancy will obtain pricing in the hopes that the cost will be more reasonable than Iron Mountain.

Michael and Rosanne will do further research on obtaining a new auditing firm for the Town. One bid has been received to date. Rosanne will contact the bidder to ask if the price quoted is negotiable.

Michael made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 18th, 2008 meeting as amended. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

The meeting went into a non-public session at 8:18pm per RSA 91-A:3 II to discuss a personnel matter. The meeting returned to a public session at 8:57pm.

Wes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer
Administrative Assistant